GUAJATAKA
SCOUT RESERVATION



Christmas Camp 2026 Participant and Unit Guide

Scouting America
Puerto Rico Council

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Version 2.3. A quick reference for the program, preparation checklists, and participation requirements. All dates are in December 2026. Activities listed as conditional must be confirmed before they take place.

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The event runs from Saturday, December 26, to Wednesday, December 30. Saturday arrival is 11:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Wednesday's recognition ceremony is 8:30–11:00 a.m., with departure at 11:00 a.m. The full program runs December 27–29.

Welcome to Guajataka

Scouting America Puerto Rico Council and Guajataka Scout Reservation welcome you to the 2026 winter camp. Join us from Saturday, December 26, to Wednesday, December 30, for “The Tradition of the Three Kings.”

Music and celebration set the stage for adventure, fun, and fellowship for children, youth, and adult leaders. The program brings together Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, and Venturing for advancement, personal growth, and recreational activities.

The program includes more than 20 merit badges, work toward Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class ranks, and more than 30 Cub Scout Adventure sessions. Use this guide to plan your unit’s advancement and activities. Participation does not guarantee completion of a requirement, merit badge, or rank.

Read the full guide and ask any questions before choosing classes. The Program Director approves the offerings, staff, and credentials listed here, except for items expressly marked as pending in this edition.

Camp Leadership	Official Contact
Andrés “Vader” Sepúlveda Program Director	andres.sepulveda@scouting.org
Mr. Juan “Tony” Laboy Camp Director	Juan.Laboy@scouting.org



Guajataka Area C, February 2022. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0. Uncropped historical image.

Camp Mission and Staff

The mission of Camp Guajataka, Scouting America Puerto Rico Council, is to give every Scout an outdoor experience where they can work on advancement, grow with their troop and patrol, enjoy the forest, learn new skills, and have fun.

Trained staff and volunteers welcome units and assist them throughout their stay. The Camp Director has final operational authority. The Scout Executive may review the Camp Director's decisions under applicable policies.

Person or Organization	Role	Contact
Juan "Tony" Laboy	Camp Director	939-314-9462
Antonio Anglada	Ranger	787-538-5383
Dr. Lilba Piña	First Aid	787-667-3441
Andrés "Vader" Sepúlveda	Program Director	787-585-8483
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Clint Scharff	Interim Scout Executive	clint.scharff@scouting.org
Scouting America Puerto Rico Council	Council Service Office	787-790-0323

Event inquiries: guajataka@scoutingpr.org. Program inquiries: andres.sepulveda@scouting.org.



Baden-Powell at Guajataka, February 2022. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0. Uncropped historical image.

Registration and Class Selection

The staff and planning team want you to have a great experience at Guajataka Navidad 2026. If you have questions after reading the full guide, contact the Program Director as soon as possible.

Units will select the merit badges, Adventures, and requirements they want to work on. This helps the camp plan staffing, materials, and activities based on each group's needs.

BlackPug registration: https://www.scoutingevent.com/661-Navidad2026

Use the BlackPug registration link above to make your unit's reservation, pay, and choose classes. Contact the Council Service Office for help. Confirm session availability and operating conditions with event staff.

For help with reservations or payments, call the Council Service Office at 787-790-0323.

Directions to Camp

Street address: Carr. 119, km 23.9, Bo. Guajataca, San Sebastián, P.R. 00685

From the East and the San Juan Metro Area

Take the De Diego Expressway (PR-22) toward Arecibo. Take exit 77B and follow PR-129 toward Lares. When you see Panadería Lourdes on your left, turn right at the traffic light and follow PR-455 to the end. There are several turnoffs, so watch the route. At the end, turn right onto PR-119. The camp entrance is on the right. The roads are narrow, so drive carefully. The original guide estimates 1 hour and 20 minutes from San Juan; travel times may vary.

From the West

Follow PR-111 to PR-119, turn left, and continue to km 24.0. The entrance is on the right. The original guide estimates 1 hour from Mayagüez.

From the South

You can travel through Mayagüez and follow the directions from the west. The alternate route in the original guide takes PR-10 to Adjuntas, PR-135 to PR-129, then left onto PR-111 to the PR-129 bridge. Follow PR-129 uphill to PR-453 and turn left toward Barrio Sóller Pileta. At the end, turn right onto PR-119. The camp is on the right. The original guide estimates 1 hour and 30 minutes. Check road conditions before traveling.

Health and Well-Being

Everyone's health and well-being come first. We will follow applicable Puerto Rico and Scouting America rules. Review the Guide to Safe Scouting and do not bring anyone who is ill. Guajataka reserves the right to refuse entry.

Preparing Your Unit for Camp

1. Meet with leaders and parents to review the plan for the week at Guajataka using this guide.

2. Reserve your preferred campsite in BlackPug: https://www.scoutingevent.com/661-Navidad2026. For help registering online, call 787-790-0323.

3. Pay through the platform. Registration payments are not accepted through ATH Móvil or at camp. Pay in the portal or, by exception, at the Council Service Office.

4. Submit one registration per unit. The unit leader may send each parent a link to pay and select their child’s classes through the Parent Portal.

5. Make regular payments on your reservation. Keep payments current to avoid late fees and receive any applicable discounts.

6. Review the cancellation and refund policy in this guide with families.

7. Share the available advancement opportunities and merit badges. Before arrival, make sure each Scout is registered for the requirements or ranks they plan to work on.

8. Share the suggested packing list and avoid overloading campers.

9. Encourage Scouts who plan to attempt the Mile Swim to practice before camp. The event is Tuesday, December 29, at 5:30 a.m. in the pool. It is for participants classified as Swimmers and is subject to aquatics testing and safety procedures.

10. Tell families that visiting day is Sunday, December 27. Visitors must register and pay in advance through BlackPug.

11. When selecting classes, make sure each Scout has a plan suited to their rank and age.

12. If your unit wants to pursue other available awards, plan how it will take part.

13. Gather printed medical forms and liability waivers at least two weeks before camp. Do not bring medical forms for anyone who is not camping.



Cuatro, maracas, güiro, and pleneras for a parranda. Thematic illustration.

Preparing for a Safe Stay

1. Explain Scouting America's current policy on drivers under 18 to families.
2. Let families know that it rains often at Guajataka, especially in the afternoons. Have a backup plan with board games and quiet activities. Aquatic activities are suspended in bad weather in accordance with Hazardous Weather Training and applicable criteria. Ask which board games and quiet activities the camp can provide.
3. Bring water shoes or closed-toe shoes for the lake and dry closed-toe shoes for archery. Wear sandals only in the shower.
4. Offer guidance on cell phone use or set a policy to limit it. Do not bring equipment, jewelry, or other valuables. The camp is not responsible for lost or stolen items.
5. Explain cabin sleeping arrangements and restroom use in accordance with Scouting America rules.
6. Review everyone's right to privacy and the conduct prohibited by Scouting America.
7. Anyone who violates Scouting America rules or applicable Puerto Rico laws, whether a participant, visitor, camper, or family member, will be removed from camp and barred from further participation in camp activities, regardless of age, with no refund of amounts paid.
8. Unit leaders are responsible for their group's conduct.
9. Camp Guajataka reserves the right to refuse admission to its facilities.



Guajataka dining hall. Council archives, scoutingpr.org.

Personal Gear and Toiletries

Each camper should be able to carry their own gear. Pack with your family and label your belongings. Tools are subject to applicable age limits, policies, and credential requirements.

Toiletries

- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Soap
- Towel
- Comb or brush
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Laundry bag

Gear

- Daypack
- Insect repellent
- Sunscreen
- Personal first aid kit
- Water bottle
- Small knife, only when allowed by age, rules, and applicable credentials
- Flashlight or headlamp
- Handbook
- Small notebook with a pencil or pen
- Compass
- A small amount of money for the Trading Post and Canteen



The Three Kings and the little box of grass. Original illustration of a Puerto Rican tradition.

Uniform, Clothing, and Optional Items

Uniform and Clothing

- Class A uniform
- Class B: several shirts and pairs of pants
- Swimsuit; a one-piece suit for female participants, as directed by the program.
- Underwear
- Athletic socks
- Poncho or rain jacket
- Shower shoes
- Scouting cap
- Closed-toe shoes or hiking boots
- Clothes hanger for Class A shirt

Miscellaneous and Optional Items

- Snacks in sealed containers, such as zip-top bags, that won't attract ants
- Folding chair
- Hand fan
- Binoculars
- Mess kit and cup
- Merit badge pamphlets
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfecting wipes

Camp checklist: https://www.scoutingpr.org/guajataka/checklist/



Guajataka chapel. Council archives, scoutingpr.org.

General Safety Rules

1. Passengers may not ride in the beds of pickup trucks. This applies to campers, staff, and camp personnel.

2. Drugs, alcohol, and controlled substances are prohibited. Adults may not bring alcoholic beverages or coolers containing beer in their trunks, even for personal use. Smoking is prohibited at camp.

3. Fireworks and powders used to color campfires are prohibited.

4. Personal firearms are prohibited at camp under applicable policies, including for license holders and off-duty law enforcement officers. Rifle Shooting is offered under the operating arrangements and license confirmed by the Program Director.

5. In an emergency, the meeting point identified in the base guide is in front of the Ángel Ramos Building. Drills will be held; confirm the plan and instructions when you arrive.

6. Campfires are not allowed at campsites. Assign adults to cook or heat food and supervise at all times. Use propane or charcoal and put out the fire. Liquid fuels are prohibited.

7. Put leftover food in sealed bags and place them in the trash cans provided. Do not throw food into the woods.

8. Store food in closed plastic containers in the picnic shelters. Never store food in cabins.

9. Liquid or cream insect repellent is recommended. Avoid aerosol sprays.

Supervision, Health, and Belongings

10. The base guide prohibits camouflage clothing and recommends brightly colored shirts so campers are easy to identify.

11. Leave valuables at home and bring only a small amount of money. The Council is not responsible for lost personal or unit property. Set up shifts to watch the campsite and keep an inventory of belongings.

12. Move as a unit or in patrols. Do not leave Scouts at the campsite unsupervised. Assign buddies and use the buddy system at all times.

13. Report every accident, however minor, to the First Aid Lodge and the office. Scouting America requires a record of incidents that occur at camp.

14. Campers may not cross other units' campsites or use their restrooms.

15. Do not let Scouts bring electronics or valuables. The camp is not responsible for their loss.

16. Wear closed-toe shoes at all times. Open-toe shoes and flip-flops are allowed only in the bathroom or shower.

17. Help prevent the spread of viruses and other illnesses. Do not attend if you are sick or your health is compromised. The source guide describes masks as optional and recommends hand sanitizer and frequent handwashing with soap and water. Follow the current health policy as confirmed by camp management.

First Aid Lodge

The First Aid Lodge provides first aid 24 hours a day during your stay, with staff and credentials approved by the Program Director. It is neither a hospital nor an emergency department.

- The First Aid Lodge is in the Administration Building, across from the parking lot and next to the office. It is staffed by certified volunteers.
- The lodge provides first aid even when volunteer physicians are on duty. Do not arrive sick expecting treatment for ongoing conditions that should be managed by the camper and their doctor.
- The leader must check in with the First Aid Lodge about Scouts who need ongoing medication so the appropriate arrangements can be made.
- Any Scout who goes to the First Aid Lodge must be accompanied by an adult from their unit in accordance with applicable youth protection rules.
- For serious emergencies the lodge cannot handle, parents will be notified and the Scout will be referred to the nearest hospital or clinic. An adult from the unit will stay with the Scout until the parents arrive. The unit will keep enough leaders with the rest of the group.
- Camp Guajataka does not have an ambulance service. In a serious emergency, call 9-1-1 and follow the camp's protocol to coordinate the response and medical transport.
- Each unit must have a first aid kit available, and each camper must carry a personal first aid kit in their backpack.
- The first aid staff on duty will be announced at the initial leaders' meeting.
- Look after your group's health: stay hydrated, use sunscreen, eat well, and follow Scouting America's health and safety rules.



Unit Arrival and Check-In

1. Arrive Saturday, December 26, between 11:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. for check-in and pool tests. Select a test time in advance in the portal and arrive at the office at least one hour before your slot. If you run into any problems, notify guajataka@scoutingpr.org. Tests depend on the approved time window and aquatics staff.

2. All vehicles must go to the parking lot. Cars are not allowed in camping areas or on camp roads.

3. Vehicles staying at camp must back into a space in the official parking lot. Display your permit on the left side of the windshield. Request the permit at check-in.

4. Each camper should bring only what they can carry in their backpack. Keep unit gear to a minimum and load it into one vehicle. The office will issue a special printed permit to unload at the campsite and leave immediately.

5. Send a unit representative to the office to announce your arrival and check in the group.

6. Do not enter camp areas until you have completed check-in and received your colored bands or wristbands.

7. After check-in, move into and inspect your campsite. Report any problems to your Commissioner.

8. On Wednesday, December 30, leave your campsite clean and complete the inspection and checkout. The recognition ceremony will run from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. Departure is at 11:00 a.m.



Welcome to Guajataka. Entrance, February 2023. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0. Uncropped historical image.

Documents Needed for Check-In

1. A printed copy of the official BlackPug reservation showing the registered participants and full payment.

2. Register each participant. Use the system's autofill option. All registered members of your unit should appear. The system verifies that they are registered with Scouting America and that adult leaders are current on Safeguarding Youth training.

3. Printed copies of current medical forms for all participants.

4. If a participant has special dietary needs, medications, allergies, or other specific conditions, enter them in the appropriate registration fields at least 2 weeks in advance so arrangements can be made.

5. A $100 security deposit is required. The deposit will be returned after the end-of-camp inspection confirms the campsite was left in satisfactory condition.

6. To speed up check-in, we recommend keeping all your documents in a clearly labeled folder.



Ángel Ramos Building, February 2022. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0. Uncropped historical image.

Program Areas and Opportunities

Guajataka offers advancement, recreation, adventure, and outdoor experiences. The Program Director approves all six areas and their staff, credentials, and availability for the final program.

Code	Area	Area Lead
AQ	Aquatic Team	Justin Tua
8P	Program Aide Team	Gabriela Alonso
ST	Sport Team and Range Activities	Johniel Torres
NT	Nature Team	Adriana Asencio
SA	Administrative Staff	Adriana Nieves
VE	Voyager Expedition and COPE	Andrea Ramos

The advancement program includes Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class; more than 30 Cub Scout adventure sessions; more than 20 Scouts BSA merit badges; and courses and training for Venturing. An alternate program is also available for adult leaders.

How to Read the Schedule

The tables below show the program reviewed by the Program Director. Each activity has its own requirements, age limits, capacity, and safety measures. Activities listed by arrangement must be coordinated in advance with the area team.



Archival photo of the Nature Lodge team; it does not show the 2026 staff. Source: scoutingpr.org.

Additional Recreation and Adventure

Recreational activities complement the advancement program. Follow each area's posted schedule for open recreation and activities offered by arrangement. The Program Director approves these options:

- Archery
- Rifle Shooting, with coverage and licensing confirmed by the Program Director
- Guided hikes
- Canoeing
- Paddleboarding
- Nature exhibits
- Swimming pool
- Rappelling tower
- Kayaking
- Self-guided trails
- Scoutcraft
- Evening activities
- Themed competitions
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Decorating contest
- Any additional offering requires confirmation and does not replace the activities listed above.

Range and Target Activities (RATA), aquatics, climbing, and Challenging Outdoor Personal Experience (COPE) will follow the applicable safety procedures and use qualified staff, equipment, and facilities.



Sunfish sailboat on Lake Guajataca, February 2023. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0.

Dining, Fees, and Visits

The dining hall serves meals for campers at the following times:

Meal	Time
Breakfast	7:30-8:30 a.m.
Lunch	12:00-1:00 p.m.
Dinner	5:30-6:30 p.m.

Visitor Passes

Visitor Day is Sunday, December 27. Register and pay for the pass through BlackPug at least one day in advance. Staff do not accept cash for visitor passes. A possible exception for card payments at the Canteen is pending confirmation.



Christmas pasteles. Cultural illustration; not part of the event menu.

Five-Day Master Schedule

The Program Director reviewed the schedule for December 26-30, 2026. Advancement sessions run December 27-29. The recognition ceremony is Wednesday, December 30, from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m., with departure at 11:00 a.m.

Time	Sat. 26	Sun. 27	Mon. 28	Tue. 29	Wed. 30
6:00 a.m.	Wake-up	Wake-up	Wake-up	Wake-up	Wake-up
7:15 a.m.		Flag ceremony	—	—	—
7:30-8:30 a.m.		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
8:30-9:00 a.m.		Site check and cleanup	Site check and cleanup	Site check and cleanup	Recognition ceremony 8:30-11:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Check-in and tests 11:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Advancement	Advancement	Advancement	Ceremony ends 11:00 a.m. Depart 11:00 a.m.
12:00-1:00 p.m.		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	—
1:00-1:30 p.m.		Rest	Rest	Rest	—
1:30-4:30 p.m.		Advancement and recreation	Advancement and recreation	Advancement and recreation Scoutcraft Challenge, 2:00 p.m.	—
4:30-5:00 p.m.	Check-in closed at 4:00 p.m.	Personal hygiene	Personal hygiene	Personal hygiene	—
5:15 p.m.		Flags	Flags	Interfaith service	—
5:30-6:30 p.m.	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	—
7:30-9:00 p.m.	Welcome campfire	Christmas Skits	Christmas Relay Natu Lab, 7:30 p.m.	Farewell campfire	—
9:00-10:00 p.m.	Leaders' meeting	Asopao	Domino Night	Parrandas	—
10:00 p.m.	TAPS	TAPS	TAPS	TAPS	—

Christmas Evenings and Fellowship

Day	7:30-9:00 p.m.	9:00-10:00 p.m.
Sat. 26	Welcome campfire	Leaders' meeting
Sun. 27	Christmas Skits	Asopao
Mon. 28	Christmas Relay and Natu Lab (limited space)	Domino Night, confirmed
Tue. 29	Farewell campfire	Parrandas

Christmas Skits

Units that wish to participate will present a short Christmas skit. A prize will be awarded for the best skit. Location: Edificio Ángel Ramos.

Christmas Relay

Units will compete in a Christmas-themed relay race. Location: Cancha.

Asopao

Adult leaders will gather for fellowship over asopao. Location: Zorzal. Confirm food service and dietary needs with camp leadership.



Guajataka campfire area, February 2022. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0. Uncropped archival photo.

Cub Scout Adventures Sunday 27

Two sessions are available: 9:00-10:15 a.m. and 10:15-11:30 a.m. Final selection and recognition depend on requirements, eligibility, and actual participation.

Den	Time	Adventure	Location
Lion	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Let’s Camp Lion	Tinieblas
Lion	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Slingshots	Range
Tiger	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Slingshots	Range
Tiger	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Archery Tiger	Archery
Wolf	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Finding Your Way	Bongaloo
Wolf	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Bobcat Wolf	Tinieblas
Bear	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Paws for Action	Zorzal
Bear	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Salmon Run	Pool
Webelos	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Champions for Nature	Nature Lodge
Webelos	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Art Explosion	Zorzal
AOL	9:00-10:15 a.m.	BB Gun[1]	Range
AOL	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Citizenship	Ángel Ramos

[1] BB Gun is part of the program approved by the Program Director and will follow applicable age, equipment, range, supervision, and operating requirements.

Slingshots and archery for Lions and Tigers must meet council or district program requirements and require an adult partner. Lions may not participate in BB gun activities.



The excitement of gathering grass for the Three Kings. Thematic illustration.

Cub Scout Adventures Monday 28

Two sessions are available: 9:00-10:15 a.m. and 10:15-11:30 a.m. Final selections and recognition depend on eligibility, participation, and completion of the requirements.

Den	Time	Adventure	Location
Lion	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Go Fish	Court
Lion	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Time to Swim	Pool
Tiger	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Champions for Nature	Nature Lodge
Tiger	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Tigers in the Water	Pool
Wolf	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Running with the Pack	Court
Wolf	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Council Fire	Zorzal
Bear	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Super Science	Nature Lodge
Bear	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Whittling	Tinieblas
Webelos	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Archery Webelos	Archery
Webelos	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Earth Rocks!	Nature Lodge
AOL	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Estimations	Bongaloo
AOL	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Paddle Craft	Canoe Base



Christmas lights and traditions. Thematic illustration.

Cub Scout Adventures Tuesday 29

Two sessions are available: 9:00-10:15 a.m. and 10:15-11:30 a.m. Final selections and recognition depend on eligibility, participation, and completion of the requirements.

Den	Time	Adventure	Location
Lion	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Ready, Set, Grow	Nature Lodge
Lion	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Mountain Lion	Tinieblas
Tiger	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Team Tiger	Zorzal
Tiger	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Designed by Tiger	Bongaloo
Wolf	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Paws on the Path	Bongaloo
Wolf	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Paws for Water	Pool
Bear	9:00-10:15 a.m.	BB Gun[1]	Range
Bear	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Archery Bear	Archery
Webelos	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Bobcat Webelos	Tinieblas
Webelos	10:15-11:30 a.m.	Paddle Onward	Canoe Base
AOL	9:00-10:15 a.m.	Into the Woods	Nature Lodge
AOL	10:15-11:30 a.m.	First Aid	Tinieblas

[1] BB Gun is part of the program approved by the Program Director and will follow applicable age, equipment, range, supervision, and operating requirements.



Guajataka pools, June 2022. Photo by Jmoliver, CC BY-SA 4.0. Uncropped historical image.

SA, 8P, and VE Merit Badges

The schedule covers December 27, 28, and 29, 2026. AM indicates morning and PM indicates afternoon. Advancement sessions are 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:30-4:30 p.m. Check the details with the merit badge counselor.

Area	Merit Badge	Location	Day	Session
SA	Communication	Zorzal	27	AM/PM
SA	Personal Management	Zorzal	28	AM/PM
SA	Citizenship in the Nation	Ángel Ramos	29	AM/PM
8P	First Aid	Tinieblas	29	AM/PM
8P	Leatherwork	Tinieblas	27	PM
8P	Pioneering	Tinieblas	28	AM/PM
8P	Search and Rescue	Tinieblas	27	AM/PM
VE	Orienteering	Bongaloo	28	AM/PM
VE	Geocaching	Bongaloo	29	PM
VE	Climbing	Bongaloo	27	AM/PM

First Year Program

This is a rank advancement program. The full description and its three patrols appear later in this guide.

Prior Work and Partial Completions

A one-day class does not replace time-based requirements. Personal Management requires 13 weeks of budgeting and recordkeeping. Bring evidence of prior work to the counselor. Completing the badge is not guaranteed. Unfinished requirements will be recorded as partial completions.



Scouts BSA rank totem. Council archives, scoutingpr.org.

Nature and Aquatics Merit Badges

Area	Merit Badge	Location	Day	Session
NT	Astronomy	Nature Lodge	27	AM/PM
NT	Bird Study	Nature Lodge	27	AM/PM
NT	Forestry	Nature Lodge	28	AM/PM
NT	Oceanography	Nature Lodge	28	AM/PM
NT	Sustainability	Nature Lodge	29	AM/PM
AQ	Swimming	Pool	27	AM/PM
AQ	Lifesaving[1]	Pool	28 and 29	AM/PM
AQ	Canoeing	Canoe Base	29	AM/PM
AQ	Kayaking	Canoe Base	28	AM/PM

Lifesaving

[1] Lifesaving runs on two days, Monday, December 28, and Tuesday, December 29, during the AM and PM sessions shown. Scouts must attend both days and complete the requirements to earn the badge.

Current prerequisites include the Swimming merit badge and a 400-yard swim before starting requirements 3–15. Neither the class nor the badge provides lifeguard certification. Admission depends on meeting the prerequisites and on an evaluation by the counselor and aquatics staff.

Aquatics Safety Requirements

Swimming, Lifesaving, Canoeing, and Kayaking will follow Safe Swim Defense or Safety Afloat, as applicable, including supervision, testing, equipment, and rescue provisions. The lake is used for boating. Swimming in the lake is prohibited.



Canoe Base and observation tower. Council archives, scoutingpr.org.

Sports and Range Merit Badges

Area	Merit Badge	Location	Day	Session
ST	Archery	Archery	28	AM/PM
ST	Rifle Shooting	Shooting Range	27	AM/PM
ST	Personal Fitness	Court	28	AM/PM
ST	Fishing	Court	29	AM

Rifle Shooting

The merit badge and the recreational activity are offered separately. Equipment will be used according to its classification and range procedures. Rifle Shooting and BB gun activities are not automatically equivalent.

Personal Fitness

The Monday, December 28, session gives Scouts time to work on requirements. Current requirements include a 12-week program. Bring evidence of prior work to the counselor and document any outstanding requirements. Attending the session does not waive deadlines or guarantee approval.

Counselors and Availability

The Program Director approves counselors, credentials, availability, and program resources. All 23 catalog entries remain in place. Prerequisites and unfinished work will be documented for each participant.



Guajataka's Nature Lodge. Council archives, scoutingpr.org.

First Year Camper Rank Advancement

Guajataka welcomes new Scouts and those working on their first ranks. The First Year Camper Program builds skills and experience. Each Scout’s progress depends on their effort and the requirements they complete.

The program has three stages and groups Scouts into patrols: Scout and Tenderfoot together, Second Class, and First Class. It covers knots, proper use of wood tools such as a pocketknife, saw, and axe, basic first aid, and Scouting fundamentals.

Patrol or Stage	Location	Dates	Time
Scout and Tenderfoot	Tinieblas	December 27–29	9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Second Class	Tinieblas	December 27–29	9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
First Class	Tinieblas	December 27–29	9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Scouts earn credit for requirements they complete and demonstrate at camp. The final report identifies what they still need to finish with their unit. Attendance alone does not earn a rank or replace the required review and recognition.



Christmas at camp and its traditions. Themed illustration.

Venturing Advancement

The full Venturing program is approved. Participants receive credit for requirements they complete and demonstrate. Instructors keep individual records, and the Advisor verifies completion when applicable. Participants receive a record of completed and outstanding requirements for the applicable recognition.

Area	Advancement	Location	Day	Session
NT	Plants and Wildlife	Nature Lodge	27	AM/PM
NT	World Conservation	Nature Lodge	28	AM/PM
NT	Ecology	Nature Lodge	29	AM/PM
AQ	Stand Up Paddle	Canoe Base	27	AM/PM
AQ	Sailing	Canoe Base	29	AM/PM
ST	Archery	Archery	28	AM/PM
8P	Fire Safety	Tinieblas	29	AM/PM

By arrangement, the program may be adjusted to explore expedition hikes or other advancement opportunities, depending on interest and feasibility. Coordinate in advance at gsr@scoutingpr.org or andres.sepulveda@scouting.org. Activities and spots are subject to confirmation.

Stand Up Paddle and Sailing

Stand Up Paddle and Sailing follow Safety Afloat, including requirements for swimming ability, proficiency, equipment, rescue, and water conditions. Participants earn credit for the requirements they demonstrate.



View of Lake Guajataca from a canoe. Council archives, scoutingpr.org.

Aquatics and Safety Training

Aquatics Team (AQ). Director: Justin Tua.

The team offers advancement and recreation in the pool and at Canoe Base. Canoes, kayaks, and sailboats use Lake Guajataka. The program does not include lake swimming.

Canoes and Kayaks

During recreation hours, campers must wear water shoes or closed-toe shoes to enter Canoe Base. No flip-flops. Schedules, skills tests, equipment, and supervision are subject to the approved plan.

Safe Swim Defense

By arrangement. Required training for adults supervising swimming. Training is valid for two years. It does not qualify someone as an area director or replace other Safe Swim Defense measures.

Safety Afloat

By arrangement. Training for adults supervising boating. It must be used with all applicable safety measures and does not replace technical proficiency, staffing, equipment, or a rescue plan.

Mile Swim and Domino Night

Mile Swim

Tuesday, December 29, at 5:30 a.m. in the pool, open only to those classified as Swimmers. The Program Director approved this activity as part of the program.

The Aquatics Team will apply the requirements for lighting, visibility, testing, supervision, rescue, temperature, and weather. The activity will be suspended if safety conditions are not met.

The Mile Swim requirements updated in 2024 include the Swimmer test, applying the skills learned, a quarter-mile qualifying swim or an alternative criterion the counselor is allowed to use, and safely completing one mile. The former four-hour or four-day training rule is no longer a requirement. Confirm the complete requirements with the official source and the counselor.

Domino Night

Confirmed by the Program Director: Monday, December 28, at 9:00 p.m., an adults-only domino tournament in the pool.

The Aquatics Team will apply the requirements for supervision, lighting, visibility, rescue, and weather. The activity remains subject to suspension if conditions are unsafe.

Aquatics Safety

Pool activities before dawn or at night require adequate lighting and visibility above and below the water, along with all other aquatics safety measures. These measures still apply when an activity is approved.

Program Aide and Scoutcraft Skills

Program Aide (8P). Director: Gabriela Alonso.

Program Aides run the First Year Program for Scouts who recently joined their troops and those still working on ranks. The team also specializes in Scoutcraft. Most advancement and activities take place at Tinieblas.

Paul Bunyan Woodsman

By arrangement. Combines a conservation project with Totin' Chip skills. Confirm the current requirements and the work completed before awarding credit.

Totin' Chip

By arrangement. Instruction and practice in using and caring for a knife, axe, saw, and hatchet. Applicable age, supervision, and safe-use rules apply.

Firem'n Chit

By arrangement. Training on building a campfire, safety precautions, and reducing its impact. Campfires remain prohibited in campsites.

Nature and Morning Hikes

Nature Team (NT). Director: Adriana Asencio.

The original guide traces the Nature Team's history to 1952. The program helps campers discover the camp's natural resources through exploration, hands-on experiences, and learning. The Nature Lodge is the meeting point and starting location for the team's hikes and activities.

Nature Exhibits

The Nature Lodge showcases the camp's natural features and species, with activities to help campers learn about them.

Natu Foto

Photo contest featuring a natural element of camp. The winning photo may be shared on the Council's social media, subject to permissions and Council approval.

Bird Walk

Monday, December 28, and Tuesday, December 29, 5:30–6:30 a.m. An interactive dawn walk to see, hear, and learn about the birds that live at camp. Meet at the Nature Lodge. The Nature Team will confirm supervision and lighting conditions.

Conservation Project

By arrangement with the Nature Team. Coordinate the work, materials, and criteria for recognition before starting.

Nature Hikes and Lab

Mahogany Hike

Sunday, December 27, and Tuesday, December 29, 1:30–2:30 p.m. and 2:30–3:30 p.m. Explore the mahogany forest.

Eco Hike

Monday, December 28, and Tuesday, December 29, 1:30–2:30 p.m. and 2:30–3:30 p.m. Adult leaders visit natural areas, learn about plants and wildlife, and take part in conservation activities.

Night Hike

Sunday, December 27, and Monday, December 28, 9:00–10:00 p.m. Look for amphibians and stars. Follow hiking safety measures and coordinate to observe Taps. This is a land activity.

Natu Lab

Monday 28, 7:30 p.m. Explore using Nature Team microscopes. Space is limited.

Nature Award

The proposed award calls for completing seven requirements. Visit the Nature Lodge to confirm the details, criteria, and availability.



Bird walk and time together by the lake. Council archive, scoutingpr.org.

Program Aide Competitions

Scoutcraft Challenge

Tuesday 29, 2:00 p.m. Troops and crews will demonstrate skills such as first aid, Totin’ Chip, and campfire preparation.

Best Campsite Gateway

During camp, the Program Aide team will judge gateways at the entrances to campsites.

Gateway Requirements

1. Use no more than 18 poles.
2. Use only dry wood.
3. Do not use wood from the camp.
4. Use lashings. Do not use nails or screws.
5. Take home the materials you brought and fill in any holes.
6. Leave the wood neatly arranged in the campfire area (Campfire).
7. Youth must build the gateway.
8. The gateway may not exceed 10 feet in height.
9. The gateway must stand on its own without being attached to trees.

Expedition Voyager and COPE

Expedition Voyager (VE). Director: Andrea Ramos. The Program Director has approved staffing, availability, and credentials.

This area offers high-adventure activities that challenge Scouts to build their skills. Technical activities require approved staff, facilities, equipment, and plans.

Climbing Tower

During recreation hours, as scheduled by the area, which coordinates access and supervision.

Project COPE

Part 1: Monday 28. Part 2: Tuesday 29. Location: Ángel Ramos. For adults and youth over age 13, with spots distributed equitably among units. Communication, trust, and leadership challenges are subject to participation controls and area capacity.

Expedición Nacimiento

A day trip to the headwaters of the Guajataka River using camp canoes. There are 15 spots for participants over age 14. The trip is subject to area controls for route, permits, water level, transportation, equipment, rescue, and emergencies.

Escalador Feroz

By arrangement. A timed race to the top of the climbing tower, with youth and adult divisions. Subject to safe operating conditions and qualified staffing.

Climb On Safely

By arrangement. Procedures for planning and conducting climbing or rappelling in natural or controlled settings. Training does not replace technical credentials or facility authorization.

Trek On Safely

Arrange in advance with the Expedition Voyager Director. Safety training for long hikes and treks. Confirm the current course name and requirements.



COPE at Guajataka. Council archive, scoutingpr.org.

Sports and Range Activities

Sport Team and Range Activities (ST). Director: Johniel Torres. The Program Director has approved staffing, availability, and credentials.

Physical fitness is one of Scouting’s aims. This area builds skills on the basketball court, at the range, and in the archery area.

Archery

Target practice during recreation hours, subject to eligibility, supervision, and range conditions.

Recreational Rifle Shooting

During recreation hours. Recreational pellet rifle shooting is separate from the Rifle Shooting merit badge. The Program Director confirms coverage and licensing for Rifle Shooting. Equipment must be used according to its classification and range procedures.

Youth and Adult Archery

By arrangement. Archery competition for youth and adults, subject to Range and Target Activities (RATA) requirements.

Court

Sports instruction, fellowship, and recreation during recreation hours.

Personal Training

Tuesday 29, 5:30 a.m., at the court. Training station for adult leaders and crew members. The area will confirm supervision, lighting, weather, and safety conditions.

Range operating procedures and RATA requirements apply by equipment and age. Lions do not participate in BB activities. Slingshot and archery have separate requirements.



Guajataka range area. Council archive, scoutingpr.org.

Administrative and Unit Services

Administrative Staff (SA). Director: Adriana Nieves.

The Administrative Staff serves units and coordinates the dining hall, Trading Post, and Canteen, along with its assigned advancement activities.

Trading Post

Camp patches and souvenirs for sale. Location: Ángel Ramos Building. Hours, stock, and payment methods will be confirmed.

Canteen

The Canteen sells snacks, refreshments, ice, pizza, and other items.

Service Projects

Units may arrange a service project with the Ranger and receive a certificate at the end of the week, based on the work completed and the agreed criteria.



Lechón asado a la vara (spit-roasted pork). A Puerto Rican Christmas illustration; not part of the event menu.

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Reservations, Prices, and Payments

Item	2026 Price	Terms
Regular youth or adult	$245	
Early payment: eligible local Scout	$225	Pay in full before December 1; $20 discount
Out-of-council youth or adult	$295	$245 regular fee + $50 per participant.
Deposit per camper	$25	Deposit for online reservations. Parents can pay through the Parent Portal.
Visitor	$15	Sunday 27. Includes lunch or dinner.
Unit security deposit	$100	Refundable after inspection

1. Reserve your space early in the portal. In exceptional cases, camp reserves the right to change a reservation or the selected campsite.

2. Eligible local Scouts receive a $20 discount if paid in full through the portal before December 1. Confirm eligibility and the deadline for 2026.

3. A $25 deposit per camper is required to reserve online.

4. The Council refund policy below also applies when an individual in a unit cancels.

5. The unit is responsible for paying the group balance in full before arrival.

6. Council Refund Policy

When You Cancel	Refund
30 days before the event	Full refund
Between two weeks and 30 days before the event	50%
Within the last two weeks	At the discretion of the event coordinator or professional adviser, usually only for an emergency

7. The offer of one free leader per ten Scout campers does not apply to Guajataka Christmas Camp 2026.

8. If available, camperships are considered separately. They are nontransferable and applied to the final balance.

9. Before camp, when settling the final balance, the unit must verify that BlackPug lists all participants and leaders in charge.

10. The unit is responsible for property damage caused by any of its members. The $100 security deposit is refunded after camp staff inspect the area and confirm it was left in satisfactory condition.

All programs, advancement opportunities, and recreational activities in this guide are subject to change. Availability may vary due to weather or guidance or administrative orders approved by the Council and the Government of Puerto Rico. We aim to offer the best program possible while protecting the health and safety of campers and staff.

The Tradition of the Three Kings

In Puerto Rico, the Three Kings hold a special place at Christmas. January 6 brings together stories, gifts, and family customs passed down through generations. Preparing a small box of grass on the eve of Three Kings Day is one of these traditions. Camp, December 26–30, celebrates that heritage. The traditional date of Three Kings Day remains January 6.



Los Reyes Magos (The Three Kings), Cabán group, ca. 1875–1900. Smithsonian American Art Museum, Teodoro Vidal Collection, 1996.91.31. CC0. Photograph of the artwork.

Art and Memory

Puerto Rico’s carved santos preserve this story. In the Cabán group’s Los Reyes Magos, the three kings ride horses and are rendered in carved, painted wood. The artwork is included as a cultural reference and does not imply endorsement of the event.

A Celebration for Every Family

Participants can share their own family traditions and listen respectfully to others. Participation in the cultural activities does not require any religious belief.